

The invention claimed is:

1. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of overhead beams, each having a longitudinally-extending first channel and a longitudinally-extending second channel, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of the open office space, an upper portion thereof adapted to be connected with an associated one of the beams, and at least one longitudinally extended T-shaped channel, the improvement including a connector assembly comprising:

    a first L-shaped bracket having a body portion and an end portion extending substantially orthogonal to the body portion, the body portion of the first bracket being mounted in the first channel of an associated one of the beams;

    a second L-shaped bracket having a body portion and an end portion extending substantially orthogonal to the body portion, the body portion of the second bracket being mounted in the second channel of the one beam;

    a first T-shaped connector having a body portion and a pair of flanges extending outwardly from the body portion of the first connector, the flanges of the first connector received within the channel of an associated one of the posts, and wherein the first connector is connected with the first bracket, thereby connecting the one beam with the one post at a first location; and

    a second T-shaped connector having a body portion and a pair of flanges extending outwardly from the body portion of the second connector, the flanges of the second connector received within the channel of the one post, and wherein the second connector is connected with the second bracket, thereby connecting the one beam with the one post at a second location.

2. The furniture system of claim 1, further including:

    a connecting rod; and

    wherein the body portion of the first bracket and the second bracket each include an aperture extending therethrough, and wherein the connecting rod extends through each aperture located in the body portion of the first and second brackets, and the one beam of the partition system.

3. The furniture system of claim 2, wherein the end portion of each of the first and second brackets includes an aperture extending therethrough that receives a mechanical fastener therein, and wherein the body portion of each of the connectors includes an aperture that receives the mechanical fastener, thereby connecting the first and second brackets with the first and second connectors, respectively.
4. The furniture system of claim 3, wherein the end portion of each bracket includes a pair of spaced-apart legs that receive the body portion of the first and second connectors therebetween, respectively, thereby assuring proper alignment between the first and second bracket and the first and second connectors, respectively.
5. The furniture system of claim 4, wherein each bracket includes an outwardly-extending shoulder received by the one beam of the partition system, thereby providing proper alignment of the brackets with the one beam prior to assembly therewith.
6. The furniture system of claim 5, wherein the first and second channels of the one beam are juxtaposed across the one beam.
7. The furniture system of claim 1, wherein the end portion of each of the first and second brackets includes an aperture extending therethrough that receives a mechanical fastener therein, and wherein the body portion of each of the connectors includes an aperture that receives the mechanical fastener, thereby connecting the first and second brackets with the first and second connectors, respectively.
8. The furniture system of claim 1, wherein the end portion of each bracket includes a pair of spaced-apart legs that receive the body portion of the first and second connectors therebetween, respectively, thereby assuring proper alignment between the first and second bracket and the first and second connectors, respectively.

9. The furniture system of claim 1, wherein each bracket includes a outwardly-extending shoulder received by the one beam of the partition system, thereby providing proper alignment of the brackets with the one beam prior to assembly therewith.

10. The furniture system of claim 1, wherein the first and second channels of the one beam are juxtaposed across the one beam.

11. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of overhead beams, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, an upper portion thereof adapted to be connected with an associated one of the beams, and a longitudinally-extending channel, the improvement of a positioning clip comprising:

a body section having a first end and a second end, the body section received within the channel of one of the posts;

an engagement portion located at the first end of the body section and engaging the one post; and

a support portion located at the second end of the body section, received within the channel of the one post, and supporting a partition connector thereon prior to assembly of an associated one of the beams with the one post.

12. The furniture system of claim 11, wherein the engagement portion includes an outwardly-extending hook.

13. The furniture system of claim 12, wherein the hook engages an end of the one post.

14. The furniture system of claim 13, wherein the partition connector supported by the support portion is T-shaped.

15. The furniture system of claim 14, wherein the support portion includes a pair of inwardly-extending fingers.

16. The furniture system of claim 15, wherein each finger of the support portion is hook-shaped.

17. The furniture system of claim 16, further including:

at least one inwardly-extending retention finger that prevents the partition connector from being slid within the channel of the one post beyond the engagement portion.

18. The furniture system of claim 17, wherein the retention finger is received within the channel of the one post.

19. The furniture system of claim 11, wherein the engagement portion engages an end of the one post.

20. The furniture system of claim 11, wherein the partition connector supported by the support portion is T-shaped.

21. The furniture system of claim 11, wherein the support portion includes a pair of inwardly-extending fingers.

22. The furniture system of claim 11, wherein the support portion is hook-shaped.

23. The furniture system of claim 11, further including:

at least one inwardly-extending retention finger that prevents the partition connector from being slid within the channel of the one post beyond the engagement portion.

24. The furniture system of claim 23, wherein the retention finger is received within the channel of the one post.

25. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of overhead beams, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, an upper portion thereof adapted to be

connected with an associated one of the beams, and a longitudinally-extending T-shaped channel, the improvement of a connector comprising:

    a substantially rectangular body portion having a first end and second end; and

    a pair of outwardly-extending flanges located at the first end of the body portion, each flange having a distal end, an outer surface located away from the body portion, and an inner surface juxtaposed across the flange from the outer surface, each flange also having a shoulder extending outwardly from the inner surface; and

    wherein the body portion and flanges cooperate to define a substantial T-shape and are received within the channel of one of the posts, the shoulder of each flange received within a corresponding groove within the channel of the one post, and wherein the second end of the body portion is connected to an associated one of the beams.

26. The furniture system of claim 25, wherein each shoulder is located proximate the distal end of each flange.

27. The furniture system of claim 26, wherein each shoulder extends substantially across an entire thickness of the flange.

28. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of overhead beams, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, an upper portion thereof adapted to be connected with an associated one of the beams, and a longitudinally-extending T-shaped channel, the improvement of a connector comprising:

    a pair of end walls;

    a pair of side walls, wherein the end walls and the side walls cooperate to define a substantially parallelogram-shaped body received within the channel of one of the posts, and wherein the body is rotatable within the channel of the one post until the end walls of the body abut a pair of interior walls within the channel of the one post;

    a first surface; and

    a second surface juxtaposed from the first surface and having a raised center portion, the center portion defined by a pair of engagement walls that extend outwardly from the second

surface and substantially parallel to the end walls, wherein the engagement walls abut a neck portion of the channel of the one post when the end walls abut the interior walls of the channel of the one post, and wherein the center portion of the second surface is connected to an associated one of the beams, thereby connecting the one beam with the one post.

29. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of horizontally-extending beams each having a longitudinally-extending channel, and a plurality of vertical posts each adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space and connected with an associated one of the beams, and having a longitudinally-extending channel, the improvement of a panel assembly comprising:

    a flexible sheet member having a first end and a second end;

    a first bracket assembly connected to the first end of the sheet member and received within the channel of one of the beams; and

    a second bracket assembly including an elastically-deformable cord extending laterally across the second end of the flexible sheet and connected thereto, the cord including a first end and a second end received within the channels of an associated pair of the posts; and

    wherein the first bracket assembly and second bracket assembly engage the channels of the one beam and pair of posts, respectively, and cooperate to resiliently retain the sheet member in a substantially planar condition.

30. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the first bracket assembly includes a first resilient member attached to and extending laterally across the first end of the sheet member, the first resilient member having a first end and a second end, the first bracket assembly further including a first connector and a second connector connected to the first and second end of the first resilient member, respectively, and wherein the first and second connectors are received within the channel of the one beam.

31. The furniture system of claim 30, wherein the first resilient member has a key-shaped cross-sectional configuration defining a circular outer portion and a rectangular inner portion.

32. The furniture system of claim 31, wherein the rectangular inner portion of the first resilient member is defined by a pair of legs, and wherein each leg includes a inwardly facing tooth extending longitudinally along the first resilient member and that engages the sheet member.

33. The furniture system of claim 32, wherein the first end of the sheet member includes an enlarged portion that is received within the circular outer portion of the first resilient member.

34. The furniture system of claim 33, wherein the first bracket assembly includes a pair of end caps each having a ribbed stud portion frictionally received within the circular outer portion of the first resilient member, and a planar section extending along a longitudinal edge of the sheet member.

35. The furniture system of claim 34, wherein each end cap includes an aperture extending longitudinally within the stud portion, and the first connector and second connector each include a finger received with the aperture of the end caps.

36. The furniture system of claim 35, wherein the first and second connectors are T-shaped and include a body portion and a pair of outwardly-extending flanges.

37. The furniture system of claim 36, wherein the first and second connectors also include a disk-shaped portion juxtaposed along the body portion from the flanges and a locking ring engageable therewith, such that the locking ring abuts a surface of the one beam, thereby forcing the flanges of the connectors into frictional engagement with the channel of the one beam.

38. The furniture system of claim 37, wherein the locking ring is threadably engageable with the disk-shaped portion of each connector.

39. The furniture system of claim 30, wherein the second bracket assembly includes a second resilient member attached to and extending laterally across the second end of the sheet member.

40. The furniture system of claim 34, wherein the second resilient member has a key-shaped cross-sectional configuration defining a circular outer portion and a rectangular inner portion.

41. The furniture system of claim 40, wherein the rectangular inner portion of the second resilient member is defined by a pair of legs, and wherein each leg includes a inwardly facing tooth extending longitudinally along the first resilient member and that engages the sheet member.

42. The furniture system of claim 41, wherein the second end of the sheet member includes an enlarged portion that is received within the circular outer portion of the first resilient member.

43. The furniture system of claim 42, wherein the second bracket assembly includes a third and fourth connector attached to the first and second end of the cord, respectively, and wherein the third and fourth connectors are releasably engageable within the channels of the pair of posts, respectively.

44. The furniture system of claim 43, wherein the third and fourth connectors are T-shaped and include a body portion and a pair of outwardly-extending flanges.

45. The furniture system of claim 44, wherein the third and fourth connectors also include a disk-shaped portion juxtaposed along the body portion of the from the flanges and a locking ring engageable therewith, such that the locking ring abuts a surface of the pair of posts, thereby forcing the flanges of the third and fourth connectors into engagement with the channels of the pair of posts.

46. The furniture system of claim 45, wherein each locking ring of the third and fourth connectors is threadably engageable with the disk-shaped portion of the third and fourth connectors, respectively.

47. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the first bracket assembly includes a first resilient member having pair of legs each having an inwardly facing tooth that cooperates to engage the sheet member.

48. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the first bracket assembly includes a first resilient member, and wherein the first end of the sheet member includes an enlarged portion that is received within the first resilient member.

49. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the first bracket assembly includes pair of T-shaped connectors each including a body portion and a pair of outwardly-extending flanges, the first and second connectors are mounted in the channel of the one beam, and wherein each connector is connected to the sheet member.

50. The furniture system of claim 49, wherein each connector also includes a disk-shaped portion juxtaposed along the body portion from the flanges, and a locking ring engageable therewith, wherein the locking ring abuts a surface of the one beam, thereby forcing the flanges of the connectors into frictional engagement with the channel of the one beam.

51. The furniture system of claim 50, wherein the locking ring is threadably engaged with the disk-shaped portion of each connector.

52. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the second bracket assembly includes a second resilient member attached to and extending laterally across the second end of the sheet member.

53. The furniture system of claim 52, wherein the second resilient member has a key-shaped cross-sectional configuration defining a circular outer portion and a rectangular inner portion.

54. The furniture system of claim 53, wherein the rectangular inner portion of the second resilient member is defined by a pair of legs, and wherein each leg includes a inwardly facing tooth extending longitudinally along the first resilient member and that engages the sheet member.

55. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein second bracket assembly includes a resilient member having pair of legs each having an inwardly facing tooth that cooperates to engage the sheet member.

56. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the second bracket assembly includes a resilient member, and wherein the second end of the sheet member includes an enlarged portion that is received within the resilient member.

57. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the second bracket assembly includes a pair of connectors attached to the first and second end of the cord, respectively, and wherein the first and second cords are releasably engaged within the channels of the pair of posts.

58. The furniture system of claim 57, wherein the connectors are T-shaped and include a body portion and a pair of outwardly-extending flanges.

59. The furniture system of claim 58, wherein the connectors also include a disk-shaped portion juxtaposed along the body portion of the from the flanges, and a locking ring engaged therewith, such that the locking ring abuts a surface of the pair of posts, thereby forcing the flanges of the connectors into frictional engagement with the channels of the pair of posts.

60. The furniture system of claim 59, wherein each locking ring of the connectors is threadably engaged with the disk-shaped portion of the connectors.

61. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the sheet member is constructed of a synthetic material.

62. The furniture system of claim 29, wherein the sheet member is constructed of a translucent material.

63. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of horizontally-extending beams each having a longitudinally-extending T-shaped channel, and a plurality of vertical posts each adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, and adapted to be connected with an associated one of the beams, the improvement of a wire manager comprising:

at least one engagement clip having a T-shaped first portion being mounted in the channel of one of the beams, and a second portion that includes a first segment of a coupler; and

a U-shaped utility tube that defines an interior space therein, and that includes a second segment of the coupler, wherein the first and second segments of the coupler are snappingly coupled.

64. The furniture system of claim 63, wherein the first segment of the coupler includes a pair of outer legs, and wherein each leg has an inwardly facing barb that engages the second segment of the coupler.

65. The furniture system of claim 64, wherein the second segment of the coupler includes a pair of legs each having an outwardly facing barb, and wherein the barbs of the second segment cooperate with the barbs of the first segment to snappingly couple the utility tube with the engagement clip.

66. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of overhead beams, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, an upper portion thereof adapted to be connected with an associated one of the beams, a first longitudinally-extending channel, and a second longitudinally-extending channel, the improvement of an external wire manager comprising:

a first bracket engaged with the first channel of one of the posts;

a second bracket engaged with the second channel of the one post, and interlocking with the first bracket, thereby biasing the first and second brackets into frictional engagement with the one post; and

a utility tube defining a longitudinally-extending interior, and connected with the first and second brackets, thereby supporting the utility tube from the one post.

67. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the first and second brackets are flexibly resilient.

68. The furniture system of claim 67, wherein the first and second brackets each include an L-shaped first end that engages the first and second channels of post, respectively.

69. The furniture system of claim 68, wherein the first bracket includes an inwardly-extending engagement member, and wherein the second bracket includes an aperture that receives the engagement member of the first bracket therein, thereby interlocking the first and second brackets.

70. The furniture system of claim 69, wherein the engagement member of the second bracket includes a hook located at a second end thereof.

71. The furniture system of claim 70, wherein the first and second brackets each include an inwardly angled portion spaced along the length thereof that frictionally engages an outer surface of the one post when the first and second brackets are interlocked.

72. The furniture system of claim 71, wherein the first and second brackets each include a hat-shaped portion spaced along the length thereof, integrally formed with the angled portions, and that extend about a portion of the one post located between the channel of the one post and an edge thereof.

73. The furniture system of claim 72, wherein the first and second brackets each include an aperture extending therethrough that receives a fastener that connects the utility tube thereto.

74. The furniture system of claim 73, wherein the utility tube includes a U-shaped first portion and a U-shaped second portion.

75. The furniture system of claim 74, wherein the first portion of the utility tube includes a first segment of a coupler, the second portion of the utility tube includes a second segment of a coupler, and wherein the second segment is snappably connected with the first segment of the coupler.

76. The furniture system of claim 75, wherein the first segment of the coupler includes two pairs of spaced apart flexibly resilient fingers, and wherein the second segment of the coupler includes a pair of prongs snappingly received between each pair of fingers, respectively.

77. The furniture system of claim 76, wherein the each finger of the first segment of the coupler includes an inwardly protruding barb, and wherein each prong of the second segment of the coupler includes an enlarged head that is snappingly received between the protruding barbs.

78. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the first and second brackets each include an L-shaped first end adapted to engage the first and second channels of the one post.

79. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the first bracket includes an inwardly-extending engagement member, and wherein the second bracket includes an aperture that receives the engagement member of the first bracket therein, thereby interlocking the first and second brackets.

80. The furniture system of claim 79, wherein the engagement member of the second bracket is hook-shaped.

81. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the first and second brackets each include an inwardly angled portion spaced along the length thereof that frictionally engages an outer surface of the one post when the first and second brackets are interlocked.

82. The furniture system of claim 81, wherein the first and second brackets each include a hat-shaped portion spaced along the length thereof, integrally formed with the angled portions,

and that extends about a portion of the one post located between the channel of the one post and an edge thereof.

83. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the first and second brackets each include an aperture extending therethrough and that receives a fastener that connects the utility tube thereto.

84. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the utility tube includes a U-shaped first portion and a U-shaped second portion.

85. The furniture system of claim 84, wherein the first portion of the utility tube includes a first segment of a coupler, the second portion of the utility tube includes a second segment of a coupler, and wherein the second segment is snappably connected with the first segment of the coupler.

86. The furniture system of claim 85, wherein the first segment of the coupler includes two pairs of spaced apart flexibly resilient fingers, and wherein the second segment of the coupler includes a pair of prongs snappingly received between each pair of fingers, respectively.

87. The furniture system of claim 86, wherein each finger of the first segment of the coupler includes an inwardly protruding barb, and wherein each prong of the second segment of the coupler includes an enlarged head that is snappingly received between the protruding barbs.

88. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the utility tube is constructed of a translucent material.

89. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the utility tube includes a ridged interior surface.

90. The furniture system of claim 66, wherein the utility tube is connected to the first and second brackets via at least one Christmas tree-type fastener.

91. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of horizontally beams at least some of which having a first channel extending longitudinally along a side surface thereof and a second channel extending longitudinally along a bottom surface thereof, and a plurality of vertical posts each adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space and connected with an associated one of the beams, the improvement of a worksurface assembly comprising:

a worksurface;

at least one supporting bracket assembly that includes a first engagement member that engages the first channel of one of the beams, a second engagement member that engages the second channel of the one beam, and an outwardly-extending support arm connected to the worksurface supporting the worksurface from the beam.

92. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of horizontally-extending beams at least some of which having a T-shaped first channel extending longitudinally along a top surface thereof and a T-shaped second channel extending longitudinally along a side surface thereof, and a plurality of vertical posts adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space and connected with an associated one of the beams, the improvement of a worksurface assembly comprising:

a worksurface; and

at least one supporting bracket that includes a first engagement member that engages the channel extending along the top surface of one of the beams, a second engagement member that engages the channel extending along the side surface of the one beam, and an outwardly-extending support arm connected to the worksurface and supporting the worksurface thereon.

93. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of overhead beams, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, and an upper portion thereof adapted to be connected with the overhead beams, the improvement of a swivel support assembly comprising:

an annularly-shaped puck having a flat bottom surface adapted to be abuttingly supported on the floor surface, an upper surface, and a side edge beveled outwardly from the

upper surface to the bottom surface, wherein the beveled side edge provides a bearing surface; and

a generally circular foot plate that includes an upper surface and a downwardly facing frusto-conical surface shaped to closely receive the beveled side edge of the puck, wherein the foot plate is operably connected to one of the posts and permits the one post to be laterally adjusted with respect to the beams.

94. The furniture system of claim 93, wherein the foot plate includes a plurality of apertures adapted to receive mounting hardware therethrough for mounting the foot plate to the floor surface.

95. In a post and beam furniture system of the type having a plurality of horizontally-extending beams, and a plurality of vertical posts each having a lower portion thereof adapted to be abuttingly supported on a floor surface of an open office space, and an upper portion thereof adapted to be connected with the beams wherein at least a select one of the beams and the posts includes a longitudinally-extending T-shaped channel, the improvement of a universal utility hanger comprising:

a body that includes a first portion that is generally hook-shaped having a circular central aperture that communicates with an outwardly-extending slot, a second portion that is generally T-shaped having a generally cylindrical neck, and a pair of flanges extending outwardly from the neck and forming a general T-shape therewith, wherein the flanges are slidingly received within the longitudinally-extending T-shaped channel, and a third portion located between the first and second portions that is generally disk-shaped, and includes an exterior thread; and

a detachable ring having a generally annular shape and that includes an interior thread, wherein the detachable ring is threadably mated with the third portion of the body and contacts an outer surface of the channel.